

State of New York  
County of Lewis  
Town of Watson

January 14, 2026

Town Officials present:

Supervisor: Jeffrey Hoch

Councilpersons present: Jeff Lyng, James Blackwell, Steve Stogsdill, Shawn Freeman

Town Clerk: Michelle Ward

HWY Superintendent: Steve Skiff

Citizens present: Bill Hunt, Mary Misek, Mike Hanno

The regular meeting was called to order on January 14, 2026 at 6:30pm by Supervisor Jeff Hoch.

Meeting was started by the Pledge of Allegiance which was led by Supervisor Jeff Hoch.

### **Minutes**

Meeting minutes for December 10, 2025 and January 2, 2026 were submitted to the town board for approval.

Motion made by Steve Stogsdill and seconded by Jeff Lyng to accept the minutes.

Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, Jeffrey Lyng, James Blackwell, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill

Nyes: None

Motion carried.

### **Privilege of the floor**

Citizen asked about posting public notices on social media instead of the newspaper. Jeff Hoch stated that part of the NY Association of Towns upcoming meeting is to discuss other options for posting said public notices as well. Future information to follow.

### **Town Assessor**

Submitted memorandum for record as of January 14, 2026.

Board reviewed with no questions.

### **Town Accountant/Financials**

December financials reviewed by the Town Board. Potential budget resolutions discussed but none approved.

### **Supervisor Report**

December 2025

Total in Community Bank - \$48,036.77

Total in NYCLASS - \$2,315,413.17

Petty Cash - \$144.50

Total Amount - \$2,363,594.44

Supervisor report for December 2025 submitted by the CPA office.

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by James Blackwell to accept Supervisor Report for December 2025.

Ayes: Jeffrey Lyng, James Blackwell, Shawn Freeman

Abstain: Jeffrey Hoch

Nyes: None  
Motion carried.

## **RACOG**

Next meeting January 22, 2026 at Castorland Fire Hall.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Highway Department**

Shared services agreement between NYSDOT and The Town of Watson was discussed as the Jeff has received a new agreement in the mail.

Motion made by Shawn Freeman and seconded by Steve Stogsdill to sign the agreement for a four-year agreement starting January 2026 – December 2029.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, James Blackwell

Nays: None

Motion Carried

The Town of Watson is actively seeking bids for the removal and installation of new overhead doors. The site location is 6965 Number Four Road, Lowville, NY 13367. The project shall include the removal and installation of all overhead doors with openers and components. Project requires proof of insurance as well as NYS Labor law guidelines. If you would like more information for the project or to visit the project location, please contact Steve Skiff at 315-816-0056. Bids should be submitted to the Town Clerk no later than 3:00PM on January 14, 2026.

Highway department received one bid for the overhead doors replacement. It was from Overhead Doors for \$51,256.00.

Motion made by Steve Stogsdill and seconded by James Blackwell to accept the bid from Overhead Doors.

Ayes: Jeffrey Hoch, Jeffrey Lyng, James Blackwell, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill

Nyes: None

Motion carried.

There was board discussion to potentially sell the old overhead doors.

Highway Garage will be updating the heating system within the building. There will be further discussion which is the best/economical direction to complete this project.

Steve brought the quote from White's Farm Supply for a York Rake – 10 ft. with 2 ft. extension for the price of \$11,170.80.

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Shawn Freeman to order the York Rake.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, James Blackwell

Nays: None

Motion Carried

### **Water System**

The water withdrawal permit will need to be renewed.

### **Town Justice**

The Town Board examined the Justice Court Fund Distribution Summary.

### **Planning Board**

Meeting held first Wednesday of each month. Meeting minutes posted to the town website:

[www.townofwatsonny.com](http://www.townofwatsonny.com) Quick Links, Departments, Planning Board

### **Zoning Board**

Meeting held the second Monday of each month. Meeting minutes posted to the town website:

[www.townofwatsonny.com](http://www.townofwatsonny.com) Quick Links, Departments, Zoning Board

### **Board Discussion**

There was board discussion to have a Town of Watson Historical Committee. The committee would work with the Town Historian. There will be further discussion.

Jeff Burr was recognized by a Board Member for impeccable job that he has been doing for the Town of Watson.

### **Abstracts**

January 2025

General Fund - #1-2, 8-20, 333 - \$19,9984.68

Highway Fund - #1-5 - \$7,413.35

Lowville Water - #1-2 - \$1,227.60

Watson Water - #1-4 - \$2,407.98

January abstracts submitted by Michelle Ward, Town Clerk.

Motion made by Jeff Lyng and seconded by Shawn Freeman to pay the abstracts.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Jeff Lyng, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, James Blackwell

Nays: None

Motion Carried

### **Monthly Reports**

Monthly report for December 2025 for Town Clerk & Dog Fund was submitted by Michelle Ward, Town Clerk.

Monthly Justice report for December 2025 was submitted by Donald Regetz, Town Justice.

Motion made by James Blackwell and seconded by Steve Stogsdill to accept reports.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, James Blackwell, Jeff Lyng

Nays: None

Motion Carried

### **Adjournment**

Motion made by Steve Stogsdill and seconded by Jeff Lyng to adjourn meeting at 8:43PM.

Ayes: Jeff Hoch, Shawn Freeman, Steve Stogsdill, James Blackwell, Jeff Lyng

Nays: None

Motion Carried

Michelle Ward

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Michelle Ward, Town Clerk

January 14, 2026

**Next Meeting**

February 11, 2026